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Washington Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health and
Chief Public Health Officer**

FOR THE YEAR 1959

R. C. F. SMITH,

M.D., B.S., D.Ph., F.R.I.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

J. MITCHELL,

M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

1960

PELAW-ON-TYNE :

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY'S PRINTING WORKS



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WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

Members of Council and Health Committee, 1959

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

Councillor R. COATES, J.P.

CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Councillor R. COATES, J.P.

GREAT USWORTH WARD

Councillor R. COATES, 14, Garsdale Avenue.

Councillor C. McILROY, 34, The Drive.

Councillor Mrs. E. THOMPSON, 6, The Drive.

Councillor A. BOYD, 1, Coverdale Avenue.

SPRINGWELL WARD

Councillor J. R. COXON, C.C., J.P., 5, Westfield Crescent.

Councillor Mrs. K. REED, 11, Shelley Avenue.

USWORTH COLLIERY WARD

Councillor J. W. DRUMMOND, J.P., 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor J. GIBSON, 75, Tyne Gardens.

Councillor R. MCGLEN, Jnr., 68, The Oval.

Councillor W. OLDS, 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor W. TROTTER, B.E.M., J.P., 25, Richardson Terrace.

Councillor S. ARMSTRONG, 12, Vernon Street.

WASHINGTON WARD

Councillor C. HALL, 13, Urban Gardens.

Councillor G. HASKETT, 40, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor W. HASKETT, B.E.M., 11, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor Mrs. A. TEMPEST, 6, The Green.

WASHINGTON STATION WARD

Councillor M. ALLON, C.C., J.P., 4, Wear Terrace.

Councillor J. A. YOUNG, 11, Biddick Terrace.

Councillor J. MURDOCK, 22, Grassmere Terrace.

Councillor H. PRICE, 22, Romney Avenue.

Councillor M. BLAND, 21, Gainsborough Avenue.

Area in acres	....	....	....	....	....	....	5,758 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid-1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	18,080
Number of Inhabited Houses (1st April, 1959), according to Rate Books			....	....	....	....	5,740
Rateable Value (1st April, 1959)	....	....	....	....	....	....	£159,988
Sum represented by a Penny Rate....		....	....	....	....	....	£698 7s. 10d.

CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE :
Councillor R. COATES, J.P.

Officials :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
R. C. F. SMITH, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :
J. MITCHELL, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :
E. SOADY, M.A.P.H.I.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
WASHINGTON.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Washington Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I hereby present my Second Annual Report on this district.

The following are the main features of the vital statistics. The estimated population of 18,080 shows an increase of 100 over the previous year. The increase of births over deaths was 185, the live birth rate was 21.01 per 1,000 of the estimated population, and the still-birth rate was 0.553 per 1,000. There were 15 more deaths this year than last year, and the vast majority of deaths were people over the age of 65. Deaths from cancer were 35, coronary thrombosis and angina 32 an increase of two over the previous year, "strokes" also showed an increase, 29 cases this year as against 27 in 1958.

No serious outbreaks of infectious disease occurred, in fact there were no notifications of either poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 525, as compared with 161 in 1958.

Posters were distributed throughout the district to remind parents of the importance of having their children immunised against diphtheria. Tuberculosis posters were also displayed stressing the importance of early diagnosis. During the year 9 cases of tuberculosis were notified, as compared with 24 cases in 1958.

In November most of the 13 to 18 year-old children in the district were skin tested and, where negative, were immunised against tuberculosis with B.C.G. vaccine. There were 346 injections given.

This is a form of preventative medicine which is most essential in Urban districts, and it means that at least 80 per cent. of these children vaccinated are now, for a number of years, protected against tuberculosis. By the time this artificial immunity has worn off they will have built up their own immunity by means of probably contracting a mild dose of tuberculosis whilst they were thus protected.

Mass poliomyelitis vaccination was regularly carried out throughout the whole of No. 5 Area, i.e., this district—Houghton, Hetton and Sunderland R.D. A clerk from the Durham County Council staff is employed whole-time at Houghton-le-Spring Urban District office. Some 5 sessions were held monthly in the area.

Many Old Age Pensioners were visited and those thought necessary were admitted to hospital or hostel under Part III accommodation of the County Scheme.

As in previous years First Aid Lectures and examinations for the purpose were given.

Several examinations under the Sickness Benefit Scheme were carried out.

I wish to acknowledge the support received from the members of the Council and the assistance given by the Council staff during my initial period of service.

REGINALD C. F. SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS.
AUGUST, 1960.

Health Services

Administered by the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The following Health Services are administered by Durham County Council as the responsible Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act :—

Ambulance.

Home Nursing.

Home Helps.

Preventative measures against Smallpox, Poliomyelitis,
Diphtheria, and Tuberculosis.

Child Welfare and Maternity.

School Medical.

Welfare of the Aged.

Welfare of the Blind and Handicapped.

Health Visitors.

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUG INSPECTORS are appointed by, and work under the direction of, the County Council.

VETERINARY INSPECTORS appointed by, and working under the direction of, the Ministry of Agriculture, being responsible for conducting routine examinations of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of health of said cows.

Vital Statistics

Births and Birth Rate

The net number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar General for outward and inward transfers) during 1959 was 370, compared with 334 for 1958.

Sex and Legitimacy are shown thus :—

LIVE BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	} Giving a Birth Rate of 21·01 per 1,000 of the estimated population.
Legitimate	364	208	156	
Illegitimate	6	3	3	

To exactly compare the Birth Rate in Washington Urban District with that for England and Wales, as a whole, it must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 0·93, giving a rate of 19·539 as compared with 16·5 for England and Wales.

The following table shows (i) the total number of births, (ii) the number of males born, (iii) the number of females born, (iv) the Birth Rate per 1,000 population, and (v) the total increase of population (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) for 1959, as compared with the years 1950–58 :—

Year	Total Births	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000	Total Increase
1950	325	160	165	18·29	163
1951	332	183	149	18·7	111
1952	302	158	144	17·06	102
1953	324	177	147	18·33	169
1954	312	170	142	17·59	108
1955	327	173	154	18·37	123
1956	336	167	169	18·8	163
1957	342	179	163	19·04	161
1958	334	181	153	18·57	164
1959	370	211	159	21·01	185

Still Births

During 1959 there were 10 still births in the district.

STILL BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	} Giving a Still Birth Rate of 26·31 per 1,000 total (live and still births).
Legitimate	10	5	5	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	

There is a Still Birth Rate of 0·553 per 1,000 population in Washington Urban District, as compared with 0·349 for England and Wales.

Deaths and Death Rate

The Registrar General reports that after correction for outward and inward transfers, 185 residents of the Washington area died during 1959, being 103 males and 82 females.

Locally compiled figures show that there were 127 deaths registered as having occurred within the district, being 62 males and 55 females.

Fifty four persons, being 30 males and 24 females, normally resident in the district, died outside the area. There were therefore 54 inward transfers.

The Death Rate for 1959, corrected for outward and inward transfers and including deaths from all causes and at all ages, was 10·23 for Washington Urban District, compared with 9·12 in 1958.

In order to compare the local figure with that for England and Wales, the former must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 1·36, giving a Death Rate for Washington of 13·913, whilst that for England and Wales is 11·6.

Total Deaths under Five Years (corrected locally)

During 1959, 11 children died before attaining the age of five years, as compared with 12 in 1958. Ten children, being 5 males and 5 females, were under one year of age.

Therefore 5·9 per cent. of the total deaths were of children under five years of age, as compared with 7·05 per cent. in 1958.

Deaths in Institutions

Of the 54 residents who died outside the area, 49 died in hospital, 2 in private homes, and 3 due to accident.

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths among women from puerperal sepsis, pregnancy, or abortion.

Comparisons between England and Wales and Washington

The maternal mortality per 1,000 total live and still births, based on deaths which are primarily classed as due to diseases of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperal state, is shown in the following table :—

	ENGLAND AND WALES		WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT	
	Nos.	Rate	Nos.	Rate
Maternal Causes, excluding Abortion	244	0.32	0	0.000
Due to Abortion	47	0.06	0	0.000
Total Maternal Mortality ..	291	0.38	0	0.000

Death Rate of Infants under One Year

During 1959 there were 10 children, being 5 legitimate males and 5 legitimate females, who died in the area before attaining the age of one year. This is equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 27.02 per 1,000 live births, compared with 22.6 for England and Wales.

In 1958 there were 10 children who died under one year of age, yielding an Infantile Mortality Rate of 29.94 (per 1,000 total births).

The following table shows the death rates for infants under one year of age, according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the years 1950–1959 :—

Year	All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births
1950	30.77	30.91	0.00
1951	42.17	43.81	0.00
1952	19.86	20.54	0.00
1953	37.03	37.97	0.00
1954	16.02	15.57	0.00
1955	36.69	35.5	0.00
1956	23.8	23.3	0.00
1957	26.31	25.56	0.00
1958	29.94	30.67	0.00
1959	27.02	27.47	0.00

The following table shows in detail the number and causes of deaths in infants during the first year of life, and also the deaths at the various ages.

Infant Mortality during the year ended 31st December, 1959

Cause of Death	Ages of Children				Total
Acute Pneumonia	....	2 months, 5 months	....	....	2
Prematurity	....	1 day; 1 day 18 hours; 1 hour; 1 hour	....	....	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage	....	1 day; 2 days	....	....	2
Congenital Heart Disease	4 months	....	....	....	1
					10

Since the total deaths in the district at all ages was 185, then 5·4 per cent. of the total were children under one year of age. Of these infants 30 per cent. were one week old or older.

Death Rate of Infant's Under One Week

During 1959 there were 7 infant's died before attaining the age of one week. This is equivalent to an early neo-natal Mortality Rate of 18·92 per 1,000 total live births.

There were 10 still births during 1959 in the district which is equivalent to a perinatal Mortality Rate of 44·73 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Causes of Death in Washington Urban District during 1959

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	....	....	....	....	....
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	....	....	....	....	1
3.	Syphilitic Disease	....	....	....	....	....
4.	Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....
5.	Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....
6.	Meningococcal Infections	....	....	....	....	....
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	....
8.	Measles	....	....	....	....	....
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	....	....	....	....
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	....	....	....	6	3
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	....	....	....	5	....
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	....	....	....	....	2
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	....	....	....	....	3
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	....	....	....	10	6
15.	Leukaemia Aleukaemia	....	....	....	....	....
16.	Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	....	....	....	16	13
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	....	....	....	17	15
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	....	....	....	2	1
20.	Other Heart Disease	....	....	....	5	9
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	....	6	8
22.	Influenza	....	....	....	....	1
23.	Pneumonia	....	....	....	5	4
24.	Bronchitis	....	....	....	12	4
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	....	....	....	3	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	1	....
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	....	....	....	....	....
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	....	....	2
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	....	....	....
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	....	....	....	....	....
31.	Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	....	1
32.	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	....	....	....	8	5
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....	....	2
34.	All other Accidents	....	....	....	5	1
35.	Suicide	....	....	....	2	....
36.	Homicide and operations of War	....	....	....	....	....
ALL CAUSES					103	82

Causes of Death

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and only 1 death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during 1959.

COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	No. of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	No. of Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.
1950	5	0.321	0.281	1	0.043	0.056
1951	2	0.275	0.113	3	0.041	0.164
1952	6	0.212	0.339	1	0.028	0.056
1953	5	0.179	0.283	0	0.022	0.000
1954	1	0.160	0.056	0	0.019	0.000
1955	2	0.145	0.112	0	0.015	0.000
1956	1	0.109	0.056	0	0.012	0.000
1957	5	0.109	0.279	0	0.011	0.000
1958	0	0.089	0.000	0	0.011	0.000
1959	0	0.077	0.000	1	0.008	0.055

HEART DISEASE
AND DISEASE OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

This includes :—

		Males		Females
Coronary Disease—Angina	....	17	....	15
Hypertension with Heart Disease....		2	....	1
Other Heart Disease	....	5	....	9
Other Circulatory Disease....	....	6	....	8
Total	....	30	....	33

Therefore in 1959 there were 63 deaths due to the above-named causes—that is 34.08 of the total deaths, or a death rate of 3.48 per 1,000 population. The percentage of total deaths in 1958 was 36.47 and the death rate 3.44.

COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	Total Deaths All Causes	Deaths due to Heart Disease	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		Percentage Total Deaths due to Heart Disease
			All Causes	Heart Disease	
1949	196	55	11.09	3.11	28.07
1950	162	42	9.12	2.36	25.92
1951	221	61	12.47	3.44	27.6
1952	200	53	11.29	2.99	26.55
1953	155	48	8.77	2.72	31.0
1954	204	72	11.51	4.06	35.29
1955	201	60	11.29	3.37	29.85
1956	173	53	9.68	2.9	30.64
1957	181	54	10.106	3.015	29.83
1958	170	62	9.12	3.44	36.47
1959	185	63	10.23	3.48	34.08

CANCER

This includes all malignant growths and diseases.

During 1959 there were 35 deaths certified as being due to malignant growths, being 21 males and 14 females. Of these 5 were due to cancer of lungs and bronchi and 9 to cancer of stomach, 2 breast, 3 uterus, and 16 to other malignant growths.

	England and Wales	Washington Urban District
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) cancer of lungs, and bronchi	0.464	0.27
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) other cancer	1.676	1.66

The following table shows the number of deaths in the area due to cancer, and the mortality rate from this disease in 1959 compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
	Male	Female	TOTAL	
1949	15	15	30	1.69
1950	6	8	14	0.79
1951	10	11	21	1.19
1952	21	12	33	1.86
1953	12	11	23	1.30
1954	18	19	37	2.08
1955	24	21	45	2.528
1956	12	15	27	1.15
1957	15	16	31	1.73
1958	21	15	36	2.02
1959	21	14	35	1.93

Mass Radiography

A survey carried out by the Unit at two locations in Washington during the 9th to 13th February, 1959, revealed the following :—

			Males		Females
Number X-Rayed	....	....	366	.....	299
Number recalled	....	....	35	.....	19
Number referred to Chest Clinic		....	15	.....	10
Number of Abnormalities revealed		....	16	.....	13
Number Pneumoconiosis		....	16	.....	—

Diphtheria Immunisations

The number of children in the Urban District who are recorded as having the complete course and those who have received the subsequent reinforcing or booster dose are given as follows :—

			Full Course		Boosters
0 to 5 years of age	....	....	723	.....	2
6 to 15 years of age	....	....	2,093	.....	839
Total	....	....	2,816	.....	841

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The water undertaking for the Urban Area has now been entirely taken over by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Co. from the Council. Water continues to be supplied as previously, that is part from the company's own reservoirs and part from the Newcastle upon Tyne and Gateshead Water Co., from whom a bulk supply is received at the western boundary of the Urban District.

The supply of water is satisfactory as regards both quantity and quality.

The only treatment installed in the supply system within the Urban District consists of a small Calgon dosing plant to reduce hardness. The taking of samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis is carried out by the company.

The waters do not appear to have a plumbo solvent action.

Samples of main supply water taken during the year gave satisfactory results, there being no evidence of contamination.

All the dwelling-houses within the Urban District are supplied from public water mains by the method herewith tabulated :—

(1)	Direct to houses	....	....	....	....	5,704
(2)	By means of tap in yard or wash-house	....				36
						5,740

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The sewage of the district is discharged into the River Wear at three points : one near Barmston Forge and two at Washington Staithes. The waste matter at Barmston only is treated in settlement tanks before being allowed to flow into the river. The settlement tanks were cleansed during September, 1959. The need for new sewage disposal works is recognised and is under consideration.

Rivers and Streams

Favourable reports as to the condition of the various water-courses in the district were received during the past year.

Closet Accommodation

At the end of the year the various types in use within the Urban District were as follows :—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Water Closets..	6,291	6,408	6,493	6,467	6,608
Ash Closets	12	11	5	5	Nil
Elsan Closets ..	6	6	7	7	7

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection and disposal of household and trade refuse within the Urban District was carried out by direct labour except for six isolated houses which were dealt with by contract.

The personnel included three foreman/drivers and 12 loaders.

A service varying from 3 to 5 days was maintained during the year to the community. 3 vehicles were in service, viz:—

No. 10 Dennis, 18 cub. yds. rear loading and diesel driven (1957)

No. 9 Dennis, 10 cub. yds. side loading and diesel driven (1953)

No. 7 Dennis, 10 cub. yds. side loading and petrol driven (1950)

The vehicle No. 7 has been nine years in service and should be considered for replacement during next year.

The number of dwelling houses, shops, and other premises dealt with totalled 5,930.

Periodic test weights of loaded vehicles were taken during the year and together with information returned in daily time sheets by the foremen it was calculated that approximately 8,733 tons were collected for disposal, involving 3,029 loads and 375,944 calls. The tonnage collected is equal to 3·7 stones per call and 1 ton 9·4 cwts. per house, etc., per year.

Disposals of refuse during the year involved 3 tipping sites, also 3 agricultural areas which were filled in on the request of the occupiers. The sites and quantity deposited were as follows:—

Swinburn's Tip (Springwell)	....	4,853 tons
Biddick Tip	....	2,600 ,,
Jubilee Tip	....	800 ,,
Agricultural Areas	....	480 ,,

With Springwell (Swinburn's) tip coming near the end of its usefulness efforts were made to obtain other tipping sites. A site to the north east of Jubilee Terrace was chosen, and after prolonged negotiations obtained, and was in use late in the year. The entrance

and approach road to the site were improved to facilitate speedier tipping. While the site offered every facility for ‘ controlled tipping ’ it was disappointing to hear the decision of the Council adhering to the old method with all its attendant difficulties and dangers.

Biddick tip was always a difficult site because of long entrance roads or tracks to the actual tipping site, which could not be used during the winter and other wet periods. This site was abandoned when Jubilee tip came into use.

All tipping sites in use during the year were frequently treated for outbreaks of fire and rat infestations.

Expenditure

The cost of collection and disposal of refuse during the year under review was £9,458 6s.

Trade refuse increased in quantity during the period and £171 received for its disposal. The actual cost on the service was therefore £9,287 6s.

Unit Costs

Expenditure per ton per annum ....	....	....	£1 1s. 3·2d.
Expenditure per 1,000 houses, &c., per annum	....	£1,566	3s.
Expenditure per 1,000 population per annum	....	£813	8s.
Expenditure per house/shop/&c. per annum	....	7·09d.	

Salvage

The collection of selected paper only which was decided upon last year has for various reasons been discontinued. All types of paper, cardboard,.etc., are at present destroyed by fire on the tipping site.

Public Health Inspector's General Summary for Year 1959

	No. of Inspection s	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied After Notice
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts....	2,143	236	4	219
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient .....	....	....	....	....
Defective	194	28	....	28
Drainage	112	53	....	44
Water Supply	61	21	....	21
Food Premises	347	17	....	16
Shop Acts	57	1	....	1
Dairies .....	....	....	....	....
Slaughter-houses :				
Public .....	....	....	....	....
Private	26	....	....	....
Tents, Vans, &c.	27	....	....	....
Offensive Trades .....	....	....	....	....
Factories and Workplaces	57	4	1	5
Keeping of Animals	4	....	....	....
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles....	181	109	....	111
Offensive Accumulations	12	3	....	3
Smoke Nuisances	35	15	....	9
Prevention of Damage by Pests Acts, 1949	359	14	....	11

Shops Act

During the year 57 visits and inspections of shops were made.

Smoke Abatement

During the year no complaints were recorded in the department.

Washington Urban District being chiefly a mining area, the Council are keenly watching the developments in other areas under the Clean Air Acts, 1956, and studying the possibilities of the future. All new properties are subject to a limited number of open fires and, where installed, must be fitted with approved appliances.

Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths in the Urban area.

Rat Infestation

During the year maintenance treatments for rats within the area were carried out as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division. A summary of the work entailed on surface infestations is given in the following table :—

Premises	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	TOTAL
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District....	*47	5,623	44	789	6,503
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1959 as result of (a) notification, (b) survey, (c) otherwise	(a) 8 (b) 1 (c)	103 139 31	7 18 7	17 19 9	135 177 47
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats	2	43	17	5	67
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	...	93	5	27	125
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	2	57	8	13	80
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4— (i) Treatment ....	....	....	....	....	....
(ii) Structural Works (i.e., Proofing) ....	....	....	....	....	....
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notices under Section 4 ....	....	....	....	....	....
8. Legal Proceedings ....	....	....	....	....	....
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	One				

* Figures given as per Valuation Roll on 31st December, 1959.

Housing

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	874
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	2,143
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	531
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	1,542
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	97
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	581

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	547
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs....	3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	3
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil

(B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil

(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 16 AND 17 (1) OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	81
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	81

(D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

During the period under review 106 houses were erected and occupied within the Urban District, viz. :—

Permanent houses by Local Authority	86
Houses built by Private Enterprise	20

4. Overcrowding

In the Urban District overcrowding is much in evidence, more particularly with regard to houses overcrowded by reason of more than one family being in occupation.

The following is a Summary of the Permanent Dwelling-houses, including number of Apartments erected by the Local Authority up to 31st December, 1959.

WARD	SIZE OF HOUSE OR TYPE				Total
	2BR	3BR	A.P.	S.P.	
Washington	108	191	34	14	347
Washington Station	42	239	31	3	315
Springwell	26	128	16	....	170
Usworth Colliery	287	156	....	....	443
Great Usworth	258	962	87	27	1,334
TOTAL	721	1,676	168	44	2,609

The total number of dwelling-houses under the control of the Urban District Council is tabulated herewith :—

Permanent	2,609
Temporary	100
Others	2
	<u>2,711</u>

5. Housing Act, 1949

Applications submitted to Local Authority during 1959....	56
Applications rejected by Local Authority during 1959	3
Total number of applications submitted since the inception of the scheme	184
Total number approved	173

6. Rent Act, 1957

Number of Certificates of Disrepair applied for during 1959	Nil
Undertakings given by landlord (Form K)	Nil
Number of Certificates issued (Form L)	Nil
Number of Certificates cancelled	Nil

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply

Details of licensing under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1955, and the various Regulations made thereunder are given as follows :—

Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	....	1
Licensed to sell “ T.T.” Pasteurised Milk (Supplementary)	.... ....	2
Registered to sell “ Sterilised ” Milk	....	49

During the year regular samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland, for examination. All samples taken satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.

There are no pasteurisation plants within the area, the bulk of milk being supplied to retailers by the Craven Dairies Limited and North-West Durham Co-operative Dairies Limited.

(b) Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Two licences were issued during the year with regard to premises for the slaughtering of animals for human consumption.

No regular slaughtering was carried out during the year. Only occasional slaughtering is practised at the two licensed premises.

Licences to slaughter were renewed to 18 persons for the ensuing year.

Unsound foodstuffs, involving the issue of 309 certificates, were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year, and consisted of the following :—

English Beef	....	....	....	....	....	35 lb.
Frozen Beef	....	....	....	....	....	92 „
Australian Rabbit	....	....	....	....	....	30 „
Bacon	....	....	....	....	....	16 „
Sausage	....	....	....	....	....	33 „
Tinned Meat	....	....	....	....	....	481 „
Tinned Vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	389 „
Tinned Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	320 „
Tinned Fish	....	....	....	....	....	12 „
Tinned Milk	....	....	....	....	....	104 pints
Tinned Rice	....	....	....	....	....	22 lb.
Tinned Soup	....	....	....	....	....	14 „
Butter	....	....	....	....	....	97 „
Margarine	....	....	....	....	....	45 „
Cake	....	....	....	....	....	51 „
Dried Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	21 „
Sugar	....	....	....	....	....	28 „
Other Foods	....	....	....	....	....	17 „

(c) Ice Cream

Number of Producers Registered	....	....	2
Number of Retailers Registered	....	....	41

During the year 107 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the following results were obtained :—

Provisional Grade	No. of Samples
1	88
2	8
3	6
4	5

Apart from the ice cream sold by the two registered producers, most of the ice cream is of the pre-packed type, which is delivered to the small retail shops where it is stored in refrigerators. Control of motor vans retailing in the district is satisfactorily maintained.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—1959

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	18	21	2	....
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	28	3	....
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	8	....	....
Total	59	57	5	....

2. Cases in which Defects were found

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	....	....	....
Overcrowding (S.2) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
Insufficient	1	....	....	1	....
Unsuitable or defective	7	7	....	2	....
Not separate for sexes ....	....	....	....	....	....
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-work) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Total	12	11	....	3	....

3. Outworkers

There are no factories in the Urban District employing outworkers.

The premises of 11 outworkers employed by factories situated in other districts were inspected and were found to be satisfactory.

Six of these were employed in making toilet goods and the other five in making wearing apparel.

Notifiable Disease during the year 1959

The incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, as notified in the district during the period under consideration, the number of cases which received treatment in hospital, and the number of deaths from such infectious diseases are shown in the following table :—

DISEASES	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever	32	....	....
Diphtheria	....	....	....
Enteric F. (incl. Paratyphoid)	....	....	....
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....
Erysipelas	2	....	....
Pneumonia	3	3	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....
Measles	476	....	....
Whooping Cough	2	....	....
Dysentery	....	....	....
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....
Polioencephalitis	....	....	....
Food Poisoning	....	....	....
Acute Encephalitis	1	1	....
Total	516	4	9

Prevention of Blindness

Schemes for the above are entirely under the jurisdiction of the County Council.

Cases of Infectious Diseases during 1959 showing Age, Incidence, and Distribution

DISEASE	At All Ages	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED										WARDS					No. of Cases Removed to Hospital	
		0-1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Washington	Washington Station	Usworth Colliery	Great Usworth		Springwell
Scarlet Fever	32	...	...	...	7	3	18	4	...	...	...	...	4	8	...	20	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding Rubella)	476	15	53	70	69	72	193	4	...	...	...	...	53	166	93	123	41	...
Pneumonia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	5	...	2	...	4	3	...	6
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1

New Cases of Tuberculosis during 1959

The following table shows the notification of tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, according to sex, for the year 1959, compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1949	11	6	17	4	2	6
1950	5	15	20	1	2	3
1951	9	9	18	3	2	5
1952	12	12	24	2	2	4
1953	14	4	18	1	....	1
1954	11	15	26	1	1	2
1955	2	9	11	1	....	1
1956	8	7	15	1	2	3
1957	7	3	10	2	2	4
1958	11	9	20	1	3	4
1959	6	3	9	....	....	....

The following table shows the distribution of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1959, according to sex and ward incidence :—

Ward	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Washington	1	1	....	....	2
Washington Station ....	....	....	....	....	....
Usworth Colliery	3	1	....	....	4
Great Usworth	2	1	....	....	3
Springwell ....	....	....	....	....	....
Total	6	3	....	....	9

The following table shows the various age periods for males and females at which the new cases were notified and the age of those who died from tuberculosis :—

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5—15 „ ....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—25 „	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
25—45 „ ....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
45—65 „	5	....	....	....	....	....	1	....
65 and upwards	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total	6	3	....	....	....	....	1	....

Occupation

The occupations of those who were notified during 1959 as suffering from tuberculosis were as follows :—

PULMONARY: 3 miners, 1 schoolchild, 2 clerks, 1 bricklayer, 1 farmworker, 1 labourer.

Sites of Lesions in Non-Pulmonary Cases

1 meninges.

Examination of Sputa

Specimens of sputa sent by the family doctor or other medical practitioner are examined free at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.

